

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-20 were pending and subject to a restriction requirement.

Claims 5-20 are withdrawn herein

Claims 1-4 remain pending.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Restriction Requirement

Claims 1-20 were subject to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121. Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the invention of Group I, Claims 1-4 drawn to a process of forming an intermediate compound of formula IV, classified in class 544 and subclasses 182 and 183.

Applicants contend that the restriction requirement is not proper in this case because each of the inventions taught in Groups I and II are found in the same class and subclasses, as shown on page 2 of the present Office Action. Thus, it would not be a burden for the Examiner to conduct a search to determine the patentability of the instant claims. In order to expedite prosecution of this case, however, applicants have withdrawn Claims 5-20 from the present application but reserve the right to amend the subject matter of those claims in the event of an allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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